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Marvland state colonization society.
8th annual report ...
1840.

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THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

MARYLAND

STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

TO THE

MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC.

BALTIMORE:
PRINTED BY JOHN D. TOY.

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POSTAGE—100 miles, and under, 3 cents—over 100 miles, 5 cents.

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MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Maryland State Colonization Society, held on Friday, January 31st, 1840, at the Colonization Office, in Baltimore, Dr. Thomas E. Bond, Sr. was called to the chair, and Dr. John H. Briscoe appointed secretary.

On motion, *Resolved*, that the Society now go into an election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons were put in nomination and unanimously elected.

President.

JOHN H. B. LATROBE.

Vice-Presidents.

Dr. Thomas E. Bond,	John H. Briscoe,
Charles Howard,	Hugh D. Evans,
Philip R. Hoffman,	John G. Proud.

Managers.

William R. Stuart,	Franklin Anderson,
George S. Gibson,	William Bose,
William Crane,	Hugh Jenkins,
Francis H. Smith,	Dr. J. H. McCulloh,
Thomas Wilson,	Charles F. Mayer,
William Mason,	Oliver Holmes.

John L. Carey, *Corresponding Secretary.*
William F. Giles, *Recording Secretary.*
Robert Mickle, *Treasurer.*

On motion the meeting then adjourned.

Rev. John H. Kennard, *Home Agent.*

Managers of the Maryland State Fund,

Under 'An Act relating to the People of Colour in this State,' appointed by the Executive of the State of Maryland.

CHARLES HOWARD,
WILLIAM R. STUART,
FRANKLIN ANDERSON.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

In presenting their annual report to the Society, the Board of Managers humbly acknowledge their grateful sense of the protection and favour vouchsafed by Divine Providence to their colony at Cape Palmas, which, without one adverse incident of serious importance, has continued, from the day of its founding to the present time, to grow with a steady and healthful pace in happiness and prosperity.

The Board, while thus alluding to the situation of the Society's affairs abroad, have been deprived, at home, of the services of their valued and esteemed agent, the Rev. Ira A. Easter, by death. Mr. Easter died in Baltimore on the morning of Thursday, the 16th inst. He had been in the employment of the Society since Nov. 1835, and during that time had devoted himself with untiring zeal to the interests of colonization. As an agent, he was faithful, prudent and industrious—as a man, he was a sincere and devoted christian, filling all the relations of domestic life in the most exemplary manner, and meeting death, the consequence of a long and painful illness, with pious resignation. His memory will be cherished with the truest respect by the managers and officers of the society.

In the fall of 1838, the Oberon, as stated in a former report, sailed with emigrants from Baltimore to Cape Palmas; and on the 12th December last, the Boxer left Baltimore with an expedition for the colony. The emigrants by the Boxer are a most respectable set of persons, and will add considerably both to the physical and moral strength of the colony. The population of the colony is now about 450.

The Boxer, besides the trade goods sent to the colony, as supplies to meet expenditures there, had on board $500 in specie, for the purchase of animals for agricultural use at Goree. The object of the society, as already often intimated, has been to make the colony essentially an agricultural one, and they have spared no pains to accom-

plish this. The present attempt to procure a good stock of beasts of burden, from which to breed, proceeds from their desire to fix the attention of the colonists upon the cultivation of the soil, as the best mode of securing an early and happy independence.

In this matter the Board have not been without their disappointments. Although the laws of the colony prohibited native traffic, the fruitful source of difficulty and dispute, without a license, except for clothing or provisions,—and although no licenses were issued, it was impossible to prevent the exceptions covering a much more extensive trade than was intended, the inclinations of the colonists, generally, with some honourable exceptions, leading them to prefer the easy profits of trade to the harder won profits of agriculture. This was remedied, to a considerable extent, by the introduction of the paper currency mentioned in a former report, which found great favour with both natives and colonists,—and which, being issued sparingly, and with a view to the competency of the public store to redeem it in goods, has maintained its credit, and along with that its usefulness. But nothing has tended so much to force the colonists to pay attention to agriculture, as the difficulties thrown in the way of obtaining rice, and provisions generally, from the natives, by wars among the latter. What might, at first sight, have appeared to be an evil to the colony, was made a benefit to it by the results; and at the date of the last despatches, as Governor Russwurm writes, there was more land under cultivation, by a great deal, than there had been since the establishment of the colony, and the feeling was becoming general among the colonists, that it was both unsafe and impolitic to rely for support upon any other labour than their own. The importance of this subject justifies its being dwelt upon.

During the last year the internal concerns of the colony have been as satisfactory as could reasonably have been expected. And although occasionally a turbulent or disaffected individual has produced excitement, yet the laws have been in the end maintained, and have been supported by the good sense and good feeling of the community. The little society at Cape Palmas may be considered in a transition state—enjoying a novel degree of freedom, and exercising for the first time an influence in their own government under a written constitution. The result is as favourable as there was any reason to expect; and the Board of Managers are satisfied, that under the eye of a firm and prudent executive, possessing sufficient authority at the colony, such as there is now in the person of Governor Russwurm, the colony will maintain the reputation of an orderly and well regulated community, where the law is paramount.

The Code, heretofore prepared for the colony, with the Charter, or Constitution, and Ordinance for the temporary government, have been found to answer well in practice; and being as yet of small compass,

and not swelled by decisions and modifications, are easily and fully understood by the colonists.

The population at Cape Palmas and its vicinity is now large enough to justify the society in sending to the colony as many emigrants as may be offered; and the colony is therefore in a situation to fulfil the views and expectations of its founders, offering to the free people of colour of the state as favourable a spot for emigration, as any other beyond the limits of the United States. In the first few years of the colony, care had to be taken to limit the number of emigrants sent to it, for fear of overburthening it. This is no longer a consideration.

It has often heretofore been said, and it is here repeated, that colonization is not supported or advocated by this society, as a means of transporting, without cost to themselves, the entire free coloured population of the state to Africa or elsewhere; but it is believed that with a much smaller expenditure than would be required for this purpose, happy, prosperous, and increasing communities, capable of self-support, self-government, and self-defence, may be planted on the coast, which shall offer such inducements to the free coloured population to emigrate, that they will gladly seek them as an asylum and a home. To plant such communities, the contributions of states and individuals are ample. Such a community the State Society believe that they have been, in a measure, successful in planting; and they believe that, by the time the appropriation of the state shall be exhausted, the colony will be capable of taking care of itself, and fulfilling its purposes, without any other expenditure than may be necessary to transport such emigrants to it as may not be able to provide their own transportation.

Few of the Europeans who seek our shores have any assistance given them to cross the Atlantic, and yet here they come, thousands upon thousands. The free coloured people have stronger reasons to leave America than the emigrants in question to leave Europe; for colour here presents an insuperable barrier to the improvement of their political condition, which is not the case with Europeans in the land they leave. Were the same emigration to take place from America to Africa that takes place between Europe and America, but a few years would elapse before the free coloured people would disappear from among us—a few years it is meant in reference to such a result.

In former reports the Board of Managers have referred to the difficulties in the way of procuring emigrants, caused by the labours of the abolitionists; the more difficult to counteract, because covertly carried on. These difficulties, the Board are informed by their agent, still continue to exist, and can only be overcome by patience and perseverance in the course that has been pursued heretofore.

Connected in some respects with the subject of colonization, is the emigration to Trinidad and English Guiana, which has taken place, or been urged and promoted during the last year, by agents from those colonies of England. This plan has in many instances found favour with

the free coloured people, and this has led to the belief that the doctrine of remaining in the United States, with a view to obtaining, by the influence of numerical strength, political and social equality with the whites, is losing its weight, and will soon cease to operate. If this shall be the case, African colonization will be the gainer, for this doctrine is that against which it has been most difficult to contend. The Board of Managers have thrown no obstacles in the way of either of the agents who have visited the United States, but on the contrary, have been glad to see them succeed to the extent that they have done. The Board themselves entertain little doubt that the free coloured people would consult their best and most lasting interests by emigration to Africa, but they are willing to believe that emigration to Trinidad or Guiana may, at the present time, be more for the advantage of the coloured man than to remain in the United States; because, from what is understood, employment is soon obtained, wages are higher, and there is more political importance given to the coloured population than with us.

But how long this is to last may be another question. The invitation to the coloured population of the United States to emigrate has followed the abolition of slavery in the colonies in question, because the freed men working less than they did as slaves, do not furnish the same amount of labour as formerly. The plantations are therefore not worked to their full capacity to produce, and hence, the attempt to get additional labour from the states of the Union. It will not take a very large immigration to supply all the labour at this time wanted, and then further immigration, by increasing competition for employment, must lower the rate of wages; unless, indeed, as is said to be the intention, or rather expectation, new plantations are opened, and the emigrants themselves become landed proprietors. This is not considered, however, a probable event.

Still, as the present emigration is certainly for the benefit of the emigrant, and as it will check itself, should the result suggested take place, the society have felt no disposition to oppose it; but, on the contrary, consider it as evincing a salutary change in the opinions of the coloured people, and a growing conviction on their part, that *this* is not their appropriate home.

The reasons of the Board for preferring and recommending emigration to Africa are, that the colonists at once take the government into their own hands; not permissively and to a limited extent, as in the English colonies, but altogether, from the highest offices to the lowest. The governor, the magistrates, the military officers—all, indeed, who hold authority, are persons of colour. The colony is essentially a coloured colony, ever to remain so—the *white* man is the *stranger* there. In the English colonies, it is otherwise. Soil and salubrity being equal, and considering colonization in reference to the coloured

race, as a means of elevating them morally and politically, the Board think that the greater privations encountered in Africa are far more than compensated by the more important results to be obtained there.

During the past year, the intelligence from the coast of Africa having satisfied the United States' government, that the slave trade had been carried on there extensively under the American flag, two vessels of war have been sent to the coast. These will, it is understood, be stationed there, and their presence, it is believed, will have a happy influence, not only in the peculiar purposes of their employment, but also in affording countenance to the colonies on the coast.

The large missionary force at the colony has, during the last year, been influential in promoting the interests of both natives and colonists; and their presence at the colony has afforded to the missionaries numerous opportunities of preserving the peace and harmony of the settlement. The Board cherish them, and are anxious to promote their usefulness and well being.

The settlement of Maryland in Liberia consists now of two villages. One, which is the seaport, on the ocean, called Harper. The other, four miles in the interior, named Mount Tubman—the two connected by the Maryland avenue, on either side of which, and adjoining each other, are the farms of the colonists. The whole presents, as all visitors agree, a most interesting community.

Accompanying this report, is a balance sheet of the books of the society from its organization in 1831; shewing, it is believed, every dollar that has been received and expended under the proper heads. The affairs of the society are, to a considerable degree, commercial in their character; because, with a view to save the loss incurred in making purchases on the coast, paid for by drafts on the United States, the society send out the articles themselves, and thus make the profit, which would otherwise, be paid to the trader. The store at the Cape, belonging to the society, is kept supplied with goods suitable to the market, with which the expenditures of the society are made; for there being no coin, which cannot remain in a country that exports nothing, the trade with the natives and colonists is carried on by barter, except indeed, where the paper money already mentioned, serves as a medium of exchange. This results advantageously to the society; the gain, as shewn by the account current, being $9,046 98, which is there entered to the credit of profit and loss.

By the account current, it will be seen, that the total amount of expenditures in the nine years, has been $101,162 82—of which, there has been received from the managers of the state fund, $66,139 91—from the colonization tax on slaves imported into the state, $2,570—and from the state appropriation of 1827, $930; in all, $69,639 91. The balance, $31,522 91, having been contributed by the society, to the objects which the state had in view in passing the law of 1831, ch.

281, under which, the payments above mentioned, except the last, of $930, were made. Besides which contribution, there has been given to the subject, the gratuitous labours of the managers, and their influence in promoting the objects of the legislation of the state.

The account current shews the home expenses for the period aforesaid, to have been $14,158 15, or at the average of $1,573 12 per annum, an amount that is most reasonable and unexceptionable. Taking the average of the expenditure for salaries in Africa, shewn under the head of African Civil List, from the sailing of the expedition by the Ann, in November, 1833, it amounts to but $2,123 55 per annum.

These remarks are made, for the purpose of shewing that there has been no wasteful extravagance in these particulars, and that a proper economy has been consulted by the Board of Managers.

The books of the society have been kept with accuracy, and a system of accountability, both in this country and Africa, has been maintained as far as the nature of the business done permitted.

In the last annual report, notice was taken of the formation and useful action of the Ladies' Society of Baltimore for the promotion of Education in Africa, and it was stated that they had sent a teacher to Cape Palmas. This person, Benjamin Alleyne, had made himself very useful, and promised to become very valuable in the colony, when he died. His death was not caused by any disease peculiar to Africa, for a healthy residence in which, the fact that he was a West Indian, peculiarly fitted him. The Board regret his loss much: but are happy to find that the Ladies' Society, not discouraged, are still zealous in the good cause for which they are organized, and propose to supply the place of Mr. Alleyne, so soon as a suitable successor can be obtained.

The Board cannot conclude their annual report, without urging upon their friends throughout the state, the necessity of taking up collections in furtherance of the objects of the society. The Board are desirous that nothing should be left undone on their part, that can give firmness to the settlement. Education, the opening of roads, assistance to new emigrants, are all of the highest importance, and can only be obtained by the expenditure of means, which must be procured from the members of the society, and the friends of colonization throughout the state. It is earnestly hoped, therefore, that the call for these objects about to be made by the agents, will be liberally responded to.

JOHN H. B. LATROBE,

President of the Maryland State Colonization Society.

Balance Sheet, 1839.

Dr. *Maryland State Colonization Society.* Cr.

Orion Expedition,	$ 3,230 89	George Hoffman,	$ 120 00
William McKenny,	93 96½	State Appropriation, 1827	930 00
Lafayette Expedition,	345 70	John Hoffman,	100 00
Contingent Expenses,	681 99	Profit and Loss,	9,046 98
Sarah & Priscilla,	661 26⅔	State Colonization Tax,	2,570 00
Brig Bourne,	1,096 07	Managers' State Fund,	66,139 91
Am. Board of Com'rs of Foreign Missions,	1 45	Brig Baltimore,	76 18
African Civil List,	12,741 31	J. Hiss,	21 00
Personal property in Af.	2,762 84	S. Smith,	173 68
Bills Receivable,	508 18	Rev. I. A. Easter,	121 30
Peter Hoffman,	422 95	Benjamin Alleyne,	14 95
Purchase of Territory in Africa,	2,054 93	Colonial Currency,	1,400 00
Colonial Store in Africa,	2,616 22	Thomas Gross,	5 00
Brig Ann,	2,757 11½	J. & J. Williams,	21 25
Expenses of Emigrants in Africa,	10,686 72	Charles, in Liberia,	20 00
Public Improvements in Africa,	14,069 13	John M. Roberts,	36 00
Expenses of Agency House in Africa,	2,247 29	Columbia Expedition,	248 88
Contingent Expenses in Africa,	3,454 16	Cape Palmas Packet,	53 00
Individual accts. in Af.	1,479 23	S. Bayard, of N. J.	8 00
Harmony Expedition,	872 69½	J. Boardley, Emigrant,	89 94
Savings Bank of Balto.	100 00	Bills Payable,	4,975 19
Brig Fortune,	1,331 41	Contributions,	14,836 45
Financier Expedition,	620 98	G. R. McGill,	100 00
Niobe Expedition, 1st,	1,120 00	Boston & Watson,	3 00
Colonization Journal,	1,484 93	John Easter, of John,	12 19
Ezekiel Harrington,	71 41	John H. Kennard,	39 92
John B. Russwurm,	727 06		
Samuel F. McGill,	734 25		
Prot. Ep. Board of Missions,	28 01		
Mrs. E. H. Tubman,	145 20		
Military stores in Africa,	916 99		
Niobe Expedition, 2d,	2,654 89		
Rev. Thomas Thornton,	35 00		
Colonial Agency in Af.	1,516 20		
J. Stewart, an Emigrant,	25 00		
Dr. R. MacDowall,	310 00		
Oberon Expedition,	7,075 23		
Government Farm,	93 80		
Collection and outfit of Emigrants,	3,767 62		
Home Expenses,	14,158 15		
R. Mickle, Treasurer,	57 14		
Martin & Mathers,	1 50		
Ladies' Society,	94 58		
Public Farm,	906 45		
Colonial School,	402 92		
	$ 101,162 82		$ 101,162 82

REPORT OF THE MANAGERS

OF THE

STATE COLONIZATION FUND,

FOR THE

REMOVAL OF THE FREE PEOPLE OF COLOUR;

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

COLONIZATION ROOMS, BALTIMORE,
January 21st, 1840.

To His Excellency WILLIAM GRASON,
Governor of Maryland:

THE report of the undersigned, the Managers of the State Colonization fund, respectfully represents:—

That during the last year the sum that they have drawn from the state has been $15,000. By the act under which they were appointed, the sum of $200,000 was appropriated to be applied to the purpose of removing the free people of colour from the state, of which $20,000 was authorized to be paid during the year succeeding the appropriation, and the balance from time to time as might become necessary, and a tax amounting to $10,000 per annum was imposed upon the counties of the state, to be paid in the proportions mentioned in the act. After the first year, the sum generally drawn by the Managers has been limited to $10,000 annually, though such restriction is not to be found in the act. This money has been paid from time to time as required, and as has been stated in former reports, to the Maryland State Colonization Society, and by them appropriated to the establishment of their colony of Maryland in Liberia, and the removal there of such emigrants as the efforts of the society could induce to remove. The expenditures of this society have been under the eye of the Managers of the state fund, and have been economical and judicious; and the agency of the State Society, which brought a number of gentlemen of character and influence to the aid, gratuitously, of the objects of the state in her legislation on this subject, has been considered always as valuable and important. In another point of view the association has been productive of benefit to the state, for the State Society being a benevolent institution, and receiving support from individuals throughout the state, besides what they derived from the state fund,

has added most materially to the means applicable to the object,—and the account current annexed to the report of its proceedings for the last year herewith transmitted—shows that, while the contribution of the State has amounted since the organization of the Society to $69,639 91, the contributions of the Society from other quarters has amounted to $31,522 91, which is the gain of the state by the course which the Managers of the state fund pursued in using the agency of the Society in question. In this proportion, it will be seen that the appropriation of $200,000 by the State, is made in fact equivalent to a sum of nearly $300,000, applicable to the purpose in hand, the removal of the free people of colour of the State from beyond its borders.

The result of the system thus far, has been the establishment of a colony on the coast of Africa, at a point salubrious to the coloured emigrant, where the soil is fertile, and where there is gradually growing up, with rare prosperity, a colony, which will be competent to receive all the emigrants from the State whom circumstances may induce to remove.

That the time is approaching when it will become apparent to the free coloured population that it is their interest to remove, the undersigned cannot doubt. The increasing white population of the country, the growing competition already observable in many of the ways of livelihood, all tend but to one result, which must be a conviction on the minds of the free coloured population, that in this land their race can have no abiding home. When this day arrives in Maryland, the state will be prepared for it, and the colony on the coast of Africa will offer to the free people of colour a home, of which, it is believed, that they will then be most ready to avail themselves.

The Managers of the state fund have thus extended their report beyond its accustomed length, with a view to state fully the system on which they have acted; one that has heretofore been countenanced and approved by the state authorities; and they do this, at this time, because it has been suggested to withdraw the appropriation of the state. This would not have the effect of swelling the funds in the treasury for general purposes, the tax being a specific one for a specific object, but the sure result of it would be to abandon to ruin a colony, established under an act of the General Assembly—approved by successive legislatures, and whose people relied on the faith of the state to the extent of the original law, when they left America for Africa.

The number of manumissions, immediate and prospective, since the date of the last annual report, has been one hundred and twenty-eight.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

CHAS. HOWARD,
WM. R. STUART,
F. ANDERSON.

APPENDIX.

DESPATCHES FROM CAPE PALMAS.

Extract from Gov. Russwurm's *letter to the President of the Maryland State Colonization Society.*

Harper, *January* 17, 1839.

Dear Sir,—I have only time to acquaint you of the safe arrival of the Oberon and passengers. The despatches have come safely to hand, and it shall be my earnest endeavour to carry out all the views and wishes of the Board. I am glad to receive the lumber, and I hope no expedition vessel will leave without bringing as much. We are pleased also, to see so much attention paid to our wants by the present shipment.

Doctors MacDowall and McGill have arrived in good health.

Signed, John B. Russwurm.

Extracts from the despatches of Governor Russwurm.

Dear Sir,—I had the honour of addressing you on August 20th ult. via Monrovia; and as there has been no opportunity of forwarding from thence, you will probably receive these lines as early, though the vessel does not proceed directly home. Then affairs appeared rather gloomy, for the reasons therein set forth; and I felt it as much my duty to inform you of the dark, as I now do to give you a detail of better times and prospects.

Columbia's emigrants.—The emigrants by this vessel have been highly favoured by the fever. Not an individual has been sick enough to be considered really dangerous; consequently, we have had only two deaths, of children, since their arrival. They have had so little sickness that I have hired a nurse only about four weeks. It is pleasant to visit them, as I was received with smiles. I have not to listen to petty grievances which I am unable to remedy. By request of Rev. J. L. Wilson, they are located on 'Bayard's Island,' in Hoffman's river. Bayard's Island contains, perhaps, forty acres of good land; I am not much in favour of the location, but my instructions were imperative.

Farms.—The farms are now looking finely, and I speak within bounds when I assert, that there is more than twice the quantity of land under cultivation this season, than the last. A little pinching, scolding and petting, and driving operations on the public farm, have convinced those who had the least spark of industry, that they need not starve unless they chose. A new species of potatoes has been introduced from the public farm. The seed came from Monrovia, and all are delighted with its size and productiveness. The introduction of night guards has prevented the farms from being plundered by the natives.

The want of working cattle cramps all farming to any extent; and I feel it my duty to place this subject constantly before the Board. I have purchased one yoke for the Tubmans, and should have supplied them with five more, but they are not to be easily procured. A native counts his cattle as his money, to purchase wives, and nothing but dire necessity ever drives him to part with them. They know also, that they can get better prices from vessels.

The Public Farm—Has been prosecuted with considerable energy during the past season, but owing to its being a very unfavourable one, not much has

been raised, except cassadas and potatoes. Pains were taken to have on the ground a quantity of manure, and the spot where the cotton seed was put in was well covered over. It was ploughed thrice, as it was my determination to give the seed a fair trial, but this second experiment has proved no better than the first: and if cotton is to be raised for exports, it must be from the African seed, which thrives finely. The plant grows well, but when it begins to bear, there is a small insect which plays havoc among its pods, before they are fairly ready to be picked. I calculate that two hundred pounds have been raised this season. The experiment, so far as it has been tried by the colonists, proves that land should be well broken up and manured, as there was a striking difference in the several patches, and where most labour was expended in preparing the ground, there the plant was most thriving. Our cotton on the public farm was planted May 5, 1838.

Though in the rainy season, we suffered much for want of rains; as there were ten or twelve weeks in which we had none. Even the cattle suffered for want of grass, and those at work had to be fed on corn or cassadas. Notwithstanding, our corn had quite a tolerable look, but when it was harvested the injury which it had sustained from the drought was evident, from the small quantity gathered. I planted about one acre, to shew the colonists who are daily complaining, that they could raise corn if they would only put forth the requisite quantum of sinews. All cavilling on this head is nearly silenced, as corn has been harvested two seasons. Our leeward natives raise it so extensively as to load vessels.

Our oxen have done exceedingly well; and without them I could not get along. Besides doing all the necessary farm work, they have hauled country boards, &c. for various individuals. The pair which were first broken are still at work, and have increased in size and value.

Assistant-Agent's house.—Agreeably to instructions, a comfortable house has been erected on Mount Tubman, for the permanent residence of the assistant-agent, who is now stationed there. The Tubmans and others in the vicinity are well pleased with the place; and fancy already they feel a security which they did not before. Thirty acres near will be placed under his superintendence, to test the difference between it, and land exposed as the agency farm is to the deleterious influence of the salt air. The present missionaries at Mount Vaughan are pleased with having so good a neighbour.

The mount is being converted into a fortification by throwing up a stockade, and digging a trench, six feet wide, around it. In it will be kept the cannon and ammunition, and it will always serve as a place of refuge for women and children in case of war or invasion. True, we fear no war or regular invasion, but we cannot tell how soon another colonist may be foolish enough to act as Parker did, or the party assaulted to take the law into his own hands. On the reserve land I have erected a comfortable dwelling for a family of respectable emigrants, during their six months' seasoning.

Free School, No. 1.—This school still continues in successful operation. The sickness and death of the teacher, O. U. Chambers, has been somewhat of a pull back to it, but I can perceive no sensible diminution in its numbers. On my late visit, forty-nine were present—average forty-two. Not much can be said in favour of their progress, as we want a more competent teacher. As our population extends out in the bush, we shall soon be under the necessity of having another school, somewhere in the vicinity of Mount Tubman. The people there, in a praiseworthy manner, have subscribed liberally in labour, towards putting up a school-house. One has given a site. It is but reasonable that they should look to the society for a teacher after it is finished. We want a fresh supply of Webster's Spelling Books, and cards of A B C. Would it not be well to give some name to Free School, No. 1?

The materials for the Ladies' School House are all ready, and I am only waiting the movements of our *only* mason, who has been engaged for the last three months at Mount Vaughan. We suffer but little inconvenience, as the house now occupied by Mr. Alleyne for his school, belongs to the Society. I am really pleased to have another school in operation, as the Methodist mission have discontinued theirs; and the desire to acquire knowledge is pretty

general, its loss being felt sensibly by nearly all who aspire to public office. We have to raise up a class of young men for officers, as we cannot expect to find any among the emigrants duly qualified. In my opinion, the Ladies' Society, by furnishing us with a competent teacher, is conferring a blessing on this colony, which will extend to our remotest posterity.

Summary.—The contents of the late despatches via Boston, are perfectly satisfactory to those in your employ—they are peculiarly so to me, as nothing can be more consoling to a man who is labouring amidst difficulties and discouragements, than to know that his conduct is approved of by his employers.

Considerable addition and repairs have been made to the agency wharf, which has been extended more into the river, and rocks of a large size placed in it. In truth it is almost a new wharf, so great have been the labour and alterations. King Freeman assisted me personally throughout the whole of it. A quantity of dirt has been removed from around the store to render it more secure. As it stands, a person of common dexterity can mount the roof very readily from the back side were it not for the watchman. I have lost *nothing* out of the store for the last year, and I want the natives to know that I keep it constantly in view, and perhaps in time, they will give up the idea of watching it for the purpose of pilfering.

I have been compelled to draw a small bill on you for $229 in favour of R. T. Sims for trade goods. The store was almost bare, and I sold palm oil for 33, when Liverpool papers quoted it at 45 a 48 per ton. An offer has been made by the West African Company to purchase all the rice I can procure. I could enter into nothing definite without advices from you; I could only talk about it without a good supply of trade goods, and a forty or forty-five tons schooner at command. Their chairman is John Blunt, Esq., Levant House, St. Helen's Place, London. Should you see proper to correspond, a profitable trade might be driven, if you could supply them with tobacco, deliverable here, in exchange for such trade goods as cannot be easily bought in the United States. The new rice shipped from Gassaway alone by slavers, up to November 1, 1838, is upwards of 5,000 croos. Quantities of it have come down the Cavally since the settlement of the river palaver, and been shipped on board slavers in the offing from Half-Cavally and Baphro. Our natives give the Cavally bush a great name for rice and oil. The slavers manage to collect large quantities of rice, and with suitable goods and a vessel, &c. our chance would be equally as good. They are, however, no sticklers about price; if rice they want, rice they will have, even if they pay double or treble for it. Upwards of fifty frame houses have been erected in the colony within two years —besides ten frames and one church by the missionaries. At Rocktown and the Cavallys are four more, not included above. Nearly three-fourths of them are inhabited.

January 17, 1839.—Much disappointed at not receiving the promised small vessel; all-important that this colony should have *one* at least. Dr. Johnson, of Bassa Cove, has bought almost the last Monrovia vessel at two or three times its value, since the late attack there, and despatched her to Sierra Leone. We stand in more need of a load of horses and jacks, than we do of emigrants, depend upon it; much progress cannot be made in agriculture without their aid. Let the next expedition vessel land her cargo here first, and with a suitable agent, be sent after a full supply, with provisions or specie as funds. Very respectfully, dear sir, your humble servant,

JOHN B. RUSSWURM,

Agent Maryland State Colonization Society.

Extract of despatches from GOV. RUSSWURM, *to* JOHN H. B. LATROBE, *Esq. Prest. Md. State Col. Society.*

CAPE PALMAS, *June* 24, 1839.

Dear Sir,—With pleasure I avail myself of this opportunity of addressing you by Capt. Lawlin, who is on the eve of leaving this place for the United States, via England. I have nothing very important to write. The state of

colonial affairs remains the same as at the date of my last communications; yet, it may not be amiss to observe, that our crops of potatoes and cassadas are more extensive and abundant at this season than they have been at any period during my residence in this colony. There has been nothing of that scarcity of provisions so much complained of last year about this time, and I may say the year before. Rice at this time is always scarce. Upon the whole I think our farming operations are manifestly in an improving condition. The general health of the colony, too, is tolerably good. Great quantities of rain have fallen within the last five or six weeks, upwards of thirteen inches the last month.

I regret to mention the loss of the ship Emperor, Captain Lawlin, on the morning of the 12th inst. about six o'clock, between Tabou and Jack Massas town, only about forty miles to the leeward; she went ashore in a calm. This circumstance makes us feel very much in want of a small craft, as we might have been able to save a great deal of valuable property from the wreck, as well as have purchased from the natives her sails, and part of her rigging and cargo, all which in the end might have been profitable to the society. We have now in the colony no less than ten seamen in distress, one captain, two mates, and a clerk. Capt. Lawlin has protested before me against the underwriters, and the document has been drawn up as he requested. I have a copy of Montefiore's Precedents.

The shipwreck of the Emperor, I understand, has been the means of adjusting the war palaver at Tabou; for in order mutually to enjoy the prize fate threw into their way, both parties have agreed to come on terms of peace. I have been told, too, that Captain Spence (an old English trader on the coast) has been trying hard to get a foothold there. I shall, if nothing happens to prevent, go down in my canoe as soon as the weather moderates, if possible, to anticipate his movements.

We are all highly pleased with the building of the Cape Palmas packet, and hope the investment will not prove unprofitable to the Society. We shall look with much anxiety for her arrival at the time appointed, with a select company of emigrants and a good assortment of merchandise. I hope a supply of horses and jacks will not be overlooked by the Board, and that the plan I proposed, of landing the emigrants first and then going for a load, will meet their approbation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. RUSSWURM, A.M. S. C. S.

P. S.—Since penning the preceding lines, I have succeeded in getting two English vessels to carry the Emperor's crew as far as Monrovia, by provisioning them. I have still two sick American sailors on my hands.

LETTERS FROM CAPE PALMAS.

Letter from JOHN B. RUSSWURM *to* J. H. B. LATROBE, *Esq.*

HARPER, *Cape Palmas, April* 7, 1839.

Dear Sir:—My last to you was January 29th, via Monrovia, enclosing duplicates of despatches per Oberon, which sailed hence, January 18th. Since then, nothing of interest has occurred, though I have not been idle in the interim.

There must be an armed steamboat on the river, if the Society desire to engross the trade, which would be much increased, particularly in camwood and oil, if a little encouragement was held out to the interior people of a ready sale for their articles, without being obliged to take them to the beach, where they are generally cheated out of one-half or a third.

Our Barrica palaver remains in 'statuo quo.' King Freeman and his people are so jealous, that every movement I make is construed by them as hostile to their interests. The Barricas have hinted indirectly, that they wished present differences adjusted, but they have never taken the regular steps to have the palaver talked; in the meantime, our colonists are stretching out towards a branch of the Hoffman river, which crosses the Maryland avenue.

I hope the Board will send some instructions upon the propriety of settling in small villages like Mount Tubman, about one and a half or two miles apart. Upon the old plan, those who are furthest back are too much exposed.

We are much pleased to hear the Society are about to have a vessel of their own. Such a plan, we think, is more likely to work efficiently, at this time, than Judge Wilkeson's. We hope we are not to be disappointed about the jacks and mules in the spring expedition—they are much wanted. I am sorry to inform you, that I see no prospect of purchasing a small vessel on the coast, as the Monrovians have only two or three old ones of no account. I shall address you more fully by Dr. Hall on this subject.

The Oberon's emigrants are beginning to stir themselves a little about their lots. They have been rather unfortunate, having lost three grown persons and one child, from fever; I should think the proportion of aged persons rather too great in this expedition. Particular regard will be paid to putting Mrs. Rosses comfortably on her lot in a few weeks. I am preparing, as fast as I can, frames for several others. Mr. Oliver's man, Barnes, has his house nearly shut in; his health has been quite feeble. The other man is doing well. The general health of the colonists is good.

You will be pleased to learn, that the farming improvements around Mount Tubman are progressing rapidly—besides sugar cane, a strenuous effort will be made to introduce the culture of yams into the colony. The past dry season has been so uncommonly fine, that we have planted potatoes or cassadas every month, and the supply in all quarters, has been quite abundant. The yam potatoe has done finely, and astonished every body by its productiveness and size; and if any old settler suffer for potatoes or cassadas, it must be from sheer idleness.

The hundred *good* muskets promised, have arrived, but I assure you, sir, that they are inferior to the trade muskets, brought on this coast by the British and sold to the natives. Several have already bursted. The cartridge boxes, bayonet scabbards and heart-plates have not come to hand.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

JOHN B. RUSSWURM, *Agent Md. S. C. S.*

Letter from JOHN B. RUSSWURM *to* JOHN B. H. LATROBE, *Esq.*

DEAR SIR: HARPER, *Cape Palmas, April* 23, 1839.

As the Saluda leaves this evening for Monrovia, I acknowledge the receipt of yours and Mr. Easter's favours of February 18, with two swivels, and two boxes of military equipments: the third box has been landed, by mistake, at Monrovia. It is hardly a fortnight since I last addressed you by the Rev. L. B. Minor, who left here for the United States, via Cape Coast Castle, in the barque Active, of Salem, Mass. In this, I shall only make a few passing remarks confirmatory of former statements.

The Saluda brings, as passengers, Rev. Messrs. Seys and Clark, and Mrs. Clark, missionaries; Mr. H. Teage, editor of Liberia Herald, Mrs. E. Teage, Mrs. C. Johnson, (wife and sister,) and Mrs. Mary Johnson, all of Monrovia. Our visiters are quite delighted with the colony, and say that your people are far ahead of the other settlements. I shall only note one instance. The spot now called Mount Tubman, and the smiling village in its rear, was selected, hardly two years ago, by Mr. McGill, Mr. Seys, (here on a visit,) and myself. Now, on his present visit, he can hardly credit his eyes that the mount, on which is erected a comfortable dwelling, is the spot to which we clambered to have a view of the surrounding country.

Capt. W. is equally delighted with Cape Palmas; and when it was known that he wanted potatoes, a cart load was sent in from Mount Tubman, of the finest quality; even our Monrovians had to confess that our potatoes were finer than theirs, and in greater abundance. Mr. McGill calculates that the Tubmans could furnish 500 croos in a few hours. I have given away a good many bushels, from the agency farm, to different vessels, to keep them from rotting in the ground.

You will be distressed to learn of the death of Mrs. Dr. Savage, about the 18th inst. of African fever. The other missionaries are all doing well. Rev. Mr. Wilson and lady have been to Jacques and Cape Coast Castle, in the Emperor. Mrs. W. received quite a fright, as part of the crew were seized, on the eve of a mutiny, and put on shore at Cape Coast Castle. Our great opponent, Dr. Bacon, has been here, and proceeded down the coast, in the Active, with Mr. Minor: he is making up a book of travels. Among the *on-dits* of the day, is the report that Mr. Wilson talks of removing his head quarters to Fish Town, by invitation from Capt. Spence, whose vessels have been fluttering around us quite frequently of late. I have *no faith* in the report. Dr. Hall is at present, at Grand Sesters, where he has an oil factory: he will be here in a few days.

We have had quite a number of vessels stopping here lately—several from Salem, Mass. belonging to Robert Brookhouse, Esq. He is quite friendly to me, and would forward any letters sent on to him: he has seven vessels in the West Africa trade. I can only reiterate to you that we follow here, in Africa, our great examplar, the Board of Managers, in economy, in all our expenditures. We are all pleased to hear you are building a Cape Palmas' packet: she is much needed, and your colonists *can look ahead to be supplied with beasts of burden.* Do remember, sir, that we are suffering from want of beasts of burden. I have concluded to take two new six-pounders from Capt. Waters, as he offers them at cost, $80. They will be put on Mount Tubman.

In great haste, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. RUSSWURM.

P. S.—Capt. Waters has been kind enough to offer me a quantity of fixed ammunition, which was put on board by the United States government, he says, about 4,000 cartridges—quite a present. He has promised to write you.

Letter from JOHN BORDLEY (*coloured emigrant*) *to Rev.* IRA A. EASTER.

DEAR SIR: HARPER, *Cape Palmas, April* 22, 1839.

An opportunity offers to write you by the ship Saluda.—Since my residence in the colony, I have been perfectly satisfied. I have already informed you of the surprise and gratification experienced on my landing, to find one of my own race presiding chief officer of the colony. My opinion of him, I may say in brief, has remained unaltered. I have invariably found him an amiable, candid, and sociable man, striving to promote the comfort of all. I now consider myself as fairly over the acclimating fever; an occasional chill, however, reminds me that I have not yet received a receipt in full. My wife had it but slightly, and, during her sickness, was dissatisfied. Since then, however, she has become entirely reconciled to her residence. My daughter and son are well; so you see I, at least have lost none of my family, although I expected it. I have already received my land: it is thickly wooded. I could not have obtained a better situation, nor more fertile land, had I arrived five years earlier. I met with a cordial reception from my christian brethren, and have often received refreshing seasons from the Lord. My physicians, however, strive and urge that I shall stay at home and pray, instead of exposing myself to the excitement of public meetings. I am anxious that the remainder of my children should share the blessings enjoyed in this place of refuge to the oppressed sons and daughters of Africa. I would urge their coming; but fears of failure keep me silent. They have my prayers that God may instil into them a feeling that will never allow them to rest satisfied until they have left the United States, and sought peace and quiet in our 'father land.' With the warmest feelings of respect,

I remain, dear sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN BORDLEY.

Extract of a letter from JOHN RANDOLPH DAVENPORT, *citizen of Maryland in Liberia, to* Mrs. ELIZABETH BALCH, *of Frederick County, Maryland.*

'How happy am I to hear from you. So unexpected did your letter arrive, and how great a treasure do I esteem it to be. Shall I, or can I ever forget my best of friends? Can there be a better friend than one who freely gives liberty to the slave? My heart expanded with joy when I read your affectionate letter, in which you express a desire to release more of my relations from bondage that they may participate with us in the blessings of liberty in a land of freemen. You state that you not only urge this privilege on them, but wish us to unite with you in urging them to join us. O, could they but appreciate the opportunity now offered them—could my coloured brethren in the United States only witness as we do, the future prospects of the rising generation, what would they not do to obtain a home in Africa? Surely they would come naked and be content with one meal a day. But alas! they cannot see, they will not be convinced.

My parents are well. The children are all going to school and improve very fast. As to my poor self, I have not yet tasted the pardoning love of God. If I never felt the need of it before, I assure you I felt it when Mr. Snetter read your letter. He has often spoken to me on this subject, and I humbly trust when you hear from me again, I shall be able to tell you what the Lord has done for my soul. Will you pray for me, my dear Mrs. Balch, and ask Mr. Lewis Balch to remember one who feels that he is yet out of the ark of safety. The two oldest girls are quite serious. My mother and wife are both christians, one a member of the Baptist, and the other of the Methodist church. I see the Scripture verified which says the righteous are not forsaken, nor their children begging bread. May the Lord continue to be merciful to you—give my love to all the family.

I have understood that master intends to send for me to visit the United States, and I should be glad to come and visit you, when I could say much more about our prospects here than it is convenient to write—but sincerely desire that all my friends may do as I have done, come and judge for themselves. Should they not be satisfied, they will then have no one to blame.

My dear Mrs. Balch, remember me to all my dear friends, and believe me your humble and obedient servant.'

Letter from the Rev. FRANCIS BURNS, *Missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Cape Palmas, to* Mr. CASSELL.

DEAR SIR: MOUNT EMORY, *January* 18, 1839.

At the instance of Mrs. Burns, I sit down to return our thanks for your present by the hands of brother Stewart, as well as to apprise you that our health is as good as could be expected under circumstances like ours. In addition to the little boy of whom Stewart informed you, we had when we arrived home a little girl of six days old. Amelia and the babe are both doing very well indeed.

Times here the past year have been something stormy in political and civil affairs, but they are gradually obtaining now more stability and consistency than I have hitherto observed in this colony. I hope they will soon acquire that regular and systematic appearance, so certainly predictive of future safety and comfort. There is much more quiet and independence now than when I arrived at this place, in 1836. More industry and economy, and a more careful husbandry of time, would most unquestionably add still more to the facilities of living a happy life. I understand by Stewart that you intend at no very distant period to return to some part of the coast. You may do so, I think, without the least apprehension of suffering, as I learn you did while here before. You have been here, you know what is necessary to render one comfortable in his circumstances, and can provide against most any thing you may think peculiar to the country and climate. The expedition came safe. It is a time of general health. Stewart's family are all well. Amelia joins me in love to you and her acquaintances.

Affectionately yours, FRANCIS BURNS.

Extract of a letter from Dr. MacDowall, *Colonial Physician at Cape Palmas.*

Cape Palmas, *April* 9, 1839.

Sir:—The soil around Cape Palmas, so far as I have examined, is light and rather sandy, as might be expected from its proximity to the sea. It is, therefore, less adapted for extensive and varied agriculture than that of the other colonies, but more favourable to health. The climate is more pleasant, less subject to the extremes of heat or rain. The sea breeze is always fresh, and pretty regular. The gardens and farms of the colonists show abundance of all that is necessary for their own domestic use. The growth of articles suitable for exportation, and which alone will give reality and stability to their prosperity, such as coffee, cotton, sugar, &c. have not yet been commenced in real earnest, although there are a sufficient number of each of these growing well, to warrant success to the undertaking. Every encouragement, by example and otherwise, is given by Mr. Russwurm, to forward such a desirable result, so far as his means will allow him. Mr. McGill is busy planting sugar-cane at Mount Tubman. The two acres already planted, promise well. It is a peculiar feature in the character of the colonists *generally*, viz. a dislike to commence and continue any labour for which the return does not follow pretty soon after. Some means are desirable, which could overcome this aversion, such as premiums, or the more tardy, though perhaps as sure method, of holding up before their eyes the successful example of another. Of this, I believe, Mr. Russwurm is aware, and tries to remedy through the agency of the public farm, as far as he is able. His suggestions on all points of importance may be safely acted on by the Board.

The situation of this settlement in its local and moral relations, to the surrounding natives, is peculiar. Four native towns are placed in the midst of the settlement, containing nearly three thousand people, meeting and mingling every day with the colonists, yet distinct in feeling and interest. Deriving insensibly their notions of civilization and christianity from the examples of the colonists, as yet dubious friends, and in any event, a powerful foe, requiring from your agent a kind, prudent, yet not a timid policy, and certainly much credit is due to Mr. R. that hostilities have been avoided, and a good understanding apparently exists between the two parties. I hope to be able to finish a set of sketches which will shew you the relative position of the native towns and houses of the colonists. The missionaries are doing much good. They have often by their influence soothed the turbulence of the natives, when excited by any occasional or accidental misunderstanding between them and the colonists. Doctor McGill has been active and industrious in the acquisition of professional knowledge, and I have no doubt will make an efficient and trust-worthy medical officer in the colony. I presume ere this reaches you, another expedition will have sailed for this place. I trust it will arrive safe, and you may rest assured, sir, that every attention in my power will be given to the people, and to the colony generally.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your most obedient servant,

R. MacDowall.

J. H. B. Latrobe, Esq.
President Maryland State Colonization Society, Baltimore.

MISSIONS AT CAPE PALMAS.

Extract from the Journal of Rev. Dr. Savage.

March 5, 1838.

Death of 'Seah.'—Last night about 2 o'clock, all were awakened by the repeated discharge of numerous guns at the Cape Town. This proved to be on account of the death of Seah, one of the principal head-men. He was spoken of as the successor to Freemen, the present king. This firing has continued throughout the day. This is customary on the death of a 'great

obtained has been, 'that be country fash,' 'white man hab him fash, and dis be country fash.' On this occasion, however, I was informed by one of the principal and most intelligent men, that it was for the use of the deceased. I asked him if he supposed a dead man capable of eating food, 'No! no!' with quick reply, 'but spose he die and we no give him money, that time he come to t'other place (the land of spirits,) when they look him, and he no hab money, den they say 'ugh!' he be poor fellow, and no let him in; so they make palaver for him. 'Spose he hab plenty thing, den, they take him in, and he be great man among em, and they do him good fash.'

This seems to be about all the idea they have of a futurity. They believe after a man dies, his soul appears again in this world, after a short time, in the body of an infant, who again in turn re-appears in the form of another, and so on eternally. Human existence thus becomes a circle, an unceasing round of life and death, so to speak, while no accountability, no judgment, enters into the view.

'Seah' had been my patient, and had long been labouring under a very bad cough, and died by consumption. He had lost all faith in 'country doctors,' and during his last illness, requested to be carried out to the mission, to evade their cruel treatment, and disgusting nostrums. Their influence however was too great, and prevented this. The night before his death, he declared to the bystanders, that his death was not occasioned by witchcraft and forbade the administration of any red water on his account. This is a case exhibiting the influence of the missionary. The views of this man had been so far changed as to save the lives of many others through this single request. Have we not encouragement to believe that our influence will go further? May we not hope that our efforts will result in the salvation of souls?

Mission at Cape Palmas.

Fair Hope.—John Leighton Wilson and Alexander E. Wilson, M. D., missionaries; Benjamin Van Rensselaer James, printer; Mrs. J. L. Wilson, Mrs. A. E. Wilson and Mrs. James. Three native helpers.

(1 station; 2 missionaries—one of them a physician, 1 printer, 3 female assistant missionaries, and 3 native helpers;—total, 9.)

The climate and the fever of Western Africa become less formidable on acquaintance, and missionaries from the northern states appear to be little, if any, more exposed to danger from them, than those going from the southern states. Mr. James, who is a coloured man, was married, near the close of last year, to Mrs. Strobel, a woman of colour, who accompanied Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Wilson to Africa as a teacher, though not under any direct appointment from the committee.

The results of the press since the commencement of its operations, are as follows: in the year 1837, 2,900 copies; in 1838, 4,112 copies; and in 1839 till March 1st, 3,860,—in all, 10,872, containing 180,532 pages. Mr. James is aided in the printing office by two apprentices.

The mission church contains 29 members, eight of whom were received the past year. There was one excommunication. Four schoolmasters and seven boarding scholars are church members. The average congregation on the Sabbath is from 50 to 100. There are three free schools, with 50 pupils. The boarding school, or seminary, contains 35 scholars, of whom 25 are males. They are generally moral and docile, and make good progress in their studies.

It is of great importance to the well-being of the native tribes of Western Africa, that the strongest possible religious influence should be thrown into the colonies, which are rising into existence and power upon their borders. Otherwise the fate of these tribes, notwithstanding the sameness of their colour with that of the colonists, will, at no distant period, be that of the native tribes in South Africa and of our own country. It would seem to be our wisest course to assume the permanence of those colonies, and their future ascendancy over the native tribes, as unquestionable facts, and to frame our plans accordingly. It will be impossible to conduct missions, happily and

prosperously in the immediate vicinity of the colonies, unless the influence of the gospel is predominant in them; and their relations with the native communities, will necessarily extend and become more and more intimate. It is a mighty influence for good or evil, that is taking root in the African soil while the friends of Africa are engaged in controversy about it; and its branches will probably extend to the Niger, the Senegal, and the great Sahara, whatever views may be entertained of colonization as a means of good. On whom it devolves to labour in the gospel among the American colonists, the committee will not pretend to decide. It does not seem to come within the range of duties devolving on the board. Of late years it has seemed to the committee that the field, which specially invites our attention, is remote from the colonies, perhaps among the Ashantees, and especially up the Niger; while, at the same time, it will be desirable for us to have a mission of moderate size at Cape Palmas. Indeed we could hardly maintain an efficient mission in the upper countries of the Niger, without having a station at Cape Palmas, and another somewhere on the Gold Coast, to serve as places for rest and acclimation, and as intermediate posts of communication.

Mr. Wilson visited Cape Coast in the early part of last year, and received a kind reception from Gov. McLean, who promised a cordial welcome and protection to our mission, should we establish one there. The communication between Cape Palmas and Cape Coast is frequent.

Dr. A. E. Wilson, formerly connected with the South African mission, sailed for the Cape Palmas mission from New York city, with his wife, on the 27th of July.

Extract from the Rev. Mr. Seys' *Annual Report of the Liberia Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church.*

Cape Palmas.—In this place too, difficulties have existed during the year, between the colonists and natives, of a very serious nature, and it was feared that they would have a tendency, in a great measure, to interrupt the regular religious services, and draw off the minds of the people from things of a spiritual character. But notwithstanding all this, the societies have been steadfast, and are making proficiency in the Divine life. A few of the members have been called to their eternal reward, and died triumphantly happy. The increase of population by immigration from America, and their scattered location in different little settlements and townships, render it impossible for one man to do do all the work. Another preacher has therefore been appointed to that charge, by which the school, which has languished and gone down for want of a teacher, Mrs. Thomas having left us, will be revived, and all the ordinances of the Lord's house, some of which the members have been deprived of for the whole year, for want of an ordained man, will now be attended to. We have concluded not to build a new church at the Cape. Brother Burns very judiciously has repaired the old one, and as the population spreads in the interior, and does not increase much at the Cape, we purpose putting up a chapel in a more central place, nearer Mount Emory. Brother Stocker, who is appointed to Palmas, having been graciously spared through two attacks of fever, will go down with brother Burns by the very first opportunity; at which time, the Lord permitting, I shall make my annual visit to that place.

OFFICERS OF MARYLAND IN LIBERIA.

APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY, FOR 1839.

Governor—John B. Russwurm.
Assistant Agent—George R. McGill.
Colonial Physician—Samuel F. McGill.

OFFICERS ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE AT AN ANNUAL ELECTION AT CAPE PALMAS, 1839.

Returns of the annual election held at Harper, Maryland in Liberia, on the first monday in March, 1839, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz:

Vice Agent.—Jacob Gross.
Register.—Joshua H. Stewart.
Treasurer.—Burwell Minor.
Selectmen.—Charles Hall, Osborn Tubman.
Councillors.—Alexander Hance, Cyrus Tubman.
Committee on New Emigrants.—Nathaniel Edmondson, Robert Whitfield, Nicholas Jackson, Sr.
Sheriff.—William Reynolds, elected 23d March; there being, at the annual election, no choice made of sheriff.

Appointments by the Agent.

Colonial Secretary.—John Revey.
Justices of the Peace.—Thomas Jackson, John Bowen, Henry Allen.
School Teachers.—Henry Hannor, for school No. 1, Nicholas Jackson, Jr. for school No. 2.
Acting Storekeeper.—William A. Prout.
Measurer of Lumber and Inspector of Shingles.—John Bowen.
Auctioneer.—William Hawkins.
Constables.—Jeremiah Stewart, Benjamin Johnson, Jr.
Collector of Customs.—Anthony Howard.

Signed, J. B. Russwurm,
A. Md. S. C. S.

Harper, Md. in Liberia, March 7th, 1839.

John Revey, *Col. Sec'ry.*

IMPORTANT TESTIMONY.

Extract from an account by the Editor of the Liberia Herald, published at Monrovia, of his voyage down the Coast of Africa.

'Intending to make a call at Harper, on our return, on we dashed, and on the morning of the 19th, found ourselves alive and well, but a little to the south of our port. This, though at first a matter of regret, proved in the sequel a source of pleasure. From being in this relative position, we had a better view of the place than we otherwise would have had. And we do not hesitate to say, that Harper affords a finer and more respectable view than any other of the American settlements. The Cape considerably elevated, is surmounted by a goodly number of neatly whitewashed cottages, which with the more ample and respectable gubernatorial residence, on a point still more elavated, and at a small distance from the others, presents an aspect of calm

tranquillity and repose really inviting. Full in view were those three far-famed native towns, of which so much has been said, and so much that is not correct. That nearest the American village, is said to contain 1,500 souls. We should be inclined to assign this number to the whole, without fear of being below the number. Whatever may be their population, in the event of a collision, their location would render them extremely formidable, and all lawful and consistent means should be used to induce them to remove either to the right or left. Fair Hope also, the residence of those devoted missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, presented itself on the south; and with its appendages and appurtenants served to diversify and enliven the picture. At ten o'clock we landed and heard the cordial salutation, 'welcome to Harper' from numerous friends. We were kindly received by Governor Russwurm and his excellent family, by the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, and by the worthy secretary of the colony, Rev. John Revey. Of their courtesy and urbanity, we shall long retain a grateful sense. But to mark any one instance of civility would be ingratitude. It must suffice to say once for all, that more general hospitality and courteous attention we have never met with. Allowing for the effect which novelty never fails to exert, and for the fact, that the first days of visitors are always *gala days* in Africa, we say without hesitation, that Harper more than exceeds our highest anticipations, and very far outstrips its competitors. This we propose to make manifest in our next. Till then we intreat our readers to remain quietly in Harper, either at the governor's or the missionaries, at either of which, and at many other places, they will find a hearty welcome.'—*Liberia Herald, June*, 1839.

REPORT OF THE LADIES' SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF EDUCATION IN AFRICA.

The Board of Managers of the 'Ladies' Society for the promotion of education in Africa,' feel it their duty again to come before their subscribers and the public, with a report of their proceedings during the last year, and although in no way disheartened in the prosecution of an enterprise from which they look for good results, they yet feel that the past year has been marked by circumstances, which, if not discouraging, call for more faith in an over-ruling Providence, and more energy than their cause has yet demanded.

Previous to the later accounts from Africa, they were filled with hope of the success of their project; upon hearing of the safe arrival of their teacher, and of the good prospects that attended their plans of instruction to the children of the colonists; but the next arrival brought them the painful tidings of the death of Alleyne, in the very commencement of his career of usefulness. He had collected around him thirty-five pupils, whose progress was extremely encouraging; but for some wise, although to us unseen cause, he was removed from the scene of his earthly labours, and for the want of some one in the same capacity to take his place, his pupils were scattered, and since then there has been no suitable person found to undertake the office of teacher. From the united testimony of the missionaries and others, it will indeed be difficult to find one so well fitted to fill the situation as Benjamin Alleyne, but the Board of Managers are now endeavouring by every possible means, to find one qualified for the post; and they are very sanguine that such a person may be procured by the sailing of the Spring Expedition.

The Managers have yet another event to notice, which has been to them a severe loss; which would prove the heavier to them, did they not feel that to him it was an 'exceeding gain.' They allude to the death of the Rev. Ira A. Easter, a tried and efficient friend since the formation of their Society. These are circumstances to sadden them, but confident in the goodness of

their cause, and remembering its unprecedented success at the outset, in spite of so many opposing events, they persevere, relying upon a kind Providence, and in the certain hope that their subscribers will still support an undertaking which promises so much of good.

It must be recollected that much of the original sum collected, was expended in the outfit and salary of the teacher; and that the remainder, although carefully husbanded, will still require the addition of unpaid and new subscriptions to carry out the plan, with regard to the sending out another teacher. It is therefore hoped that not only those who have already displayed an interest in this cause will uphold them, but that new friends may be found willing to sustain the Managers in what they feel to be the cause of benevolence and religion.

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